

CONCORDIA COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE

Minutes of a Meeting held in H-773 at 12:00 noon on Friday, 11 October, 1991.

Present: Donald L. Boisvert, Chair, Mohammed Ahsan, Roger Côté, Brian Counihan, Hernani Farias, Sup Mei Graub, Lana Grimes, Nick Kaminaris, Ann Kerby, Aparna Kurupati, Marlis Hubbard, Janet Mrenica, Bob Philip, Brahm Rosensweig, Nancy Torbit, Shirley Maynes, Secretary.

Absent: Bluma Litner, Charlene Nero, Tisca Pratt

1. **Chair's Remarks**

Dr. Boisvert welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year. The appointment of the second professional staff member to sit on Council will be announced after elections have been held.

Dr. Boisvert reviewed the mandate and revised composition of CCSL. Council should play a critical, visible and vibrant role in student life and is the forum where a wide range of issues and concerns can be addressed.

2. **Introduction of Members**

3. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as proposed.

4. **Adoption of the Minutes**

The minutes of the March 1, 1991 meeting were duly moved, seconded and adopted.

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

None.

6. **Student Services Implementation Report, May 1991 (CCSL-10-91-D1)**

For the benefit of new students on Council, Dr. Boisvert reviewed the process which began three years ago. A task force composed of three students and three staff members laboured long and hard to produce the original report. The report resulted in the creation of a structure and series of principles which would reflect a sense of identity and more fully address student and staff needs. Some of the recommendations in the report were put into effect immediately, i.e., the appointment of an Associate Vice-Rector, Services (Student Life), the creation of the Advocacy and Support Services portfolio, the establishment of Health Services and

Financial Aid and Awards as Directorates, and an expanded role for the Dean of Students.

On a MOTION by J. Mrenica, SECONDED by R. Côté, it was moved that the report be tabled for discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Chair reviewed section 8 entitled "Recommendations".

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| (1) done | (8) working groups for both prof. and |
| (2) ongoing | and support staff have been established |
| (3) done and ongoing | (9) done |
| (4) ongoing | (10) will be done |
| (5) will be done | (11) not necessary |
| (6) done | (12) to be addressed during the year |
| (7) done | |

Implementation Report - Question Period

Why was the report presented to the Board of Governors for approval before going to CCSL?

The implementation report was submitted to the Board for information only. The Vice-Rector, Services implemented some immediate changes from the original report in order to allow for progress. The report was received by the Directors for immediate action.

The intention of the original report was to focus on a genuine desire to improve the Student Services sector in order to better serve the students. A copy of the original report will be distributed to all Council members.

Why one less GSA representative and one more CUSA representative?

The composition of Council was changed in order to retain parity as well as to reflect better the larger population of the undergraduate community.

How can students be more fully informed of the various services offered?

Suggestion that ads be placed in the Link and the Concordian. Dr. Boisvert will prepare a proposed text which will be brought back to Council for ratification.

Can you elaborate on the 3 year strategic plan?

Not at the moment, but Council will play an important role in its development.

Can you explain "...coordinate and implement the organizational assessment strategy for services, programmes and portfolio functions from a programme development and implementation context" (page 6)

Services should be offered in the context of a student developmental model, and programmes should clearly address student needs. For example:

- development and evaluation of programmes;
- professional development;
- promotion of socio-cultural activities by the Dean of Students.

Dr. Boisvert noted that in keeping with the student services mandate, and one of the suggestions of the report, effective November 1, 1991, residences will become the responsibility of the Dean of Students.

MOTION by M. Ahsan, SECONDED by R. Côté to approve the implementation report.

L. Grimes requested additional input from CCSL student members prior to approval.

MOTION by H. Farias to table the report, SECONDED by B. Counihan. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Student Services Goals and Objectives - 1991/92 (CCSL-10-91-D2)**

MOVED by J. Mrenica, SECONDED by H. Farias that the report be received for discussion.

Financial Aid and Awards

Many students are not aware of the scholarships and awards which are available.

Taken under advisement and ways and means will be explored to publicize more fully the above. CUSA has a Financial Aid Committee; perhaps they can be of some assistance.

Why are you trying to reduce student visits?

If a student's complete needs can be met with only one visit, the feasibility of expanding services to other students grows. We are not trying to discourage students from coming to the office more than once.

As a user of the emergency loans, assistance by ,and contact with all staff in the Department has been tremendous. How can objectives 2 and 3 be added to the load of an already overburdened staff?

By reducing the number of appointments necessary for each student and by the introduction of peer helpers and student volunteers.

What is the target date for the move to the new building and how will moving disrupt the current service?

- design and space needs have been defined;
- move to take place before mid-August;
- 3 day shutdown will be required, but some provision will be made to maintain essential services.

Long line-ups and the need for students to move from building to building will be greatly reduced by the "one-stop shopping" concept with approximately 17 "wickets" to serve students for Admissions, Accounts, Registrar's Services and Financial Aid, although when large batches of disbursements are received, line ups will most likely be inevitable.

Will the number of students being assisted by emergency loans decrease the dollars available to individual students?

Dollar limits on emergency loans will not change.

Dean of Students

Can you give an example of new services to be initiated?

Access and availability of word processing.

What is the leadership programme?

Information and training sessions for student association executives, particularly at the beginning of the term.

What is the development of a leasing arrangement?

All space is University space, but at the moment there are no written agreements between the student groups and the University. It is for the protection of both student associations and the University.

Plans for student space on mezzanine?

Once the bookstore, art gallery, etc. move to the new library building, consideration will be given to combining some student space needs on the mezzanine of the Hall Building.

Will other student associations be represented on issues such as space, campus centre, etc.?

Consultation with all student groups is a high priority.

Advocacy and Support Services

International students certainly require orientation to Montreal, but anyone moving to the City for the first time could benefit from some orientation.

This is one aspect which has certainly been neglected, but rest assured it will be considered in the future.

Legal Information Services should be meeting with the CUSA Advocacy group.

Agreed.

Guidance Services

Throughout the question period for each sector, it became increasingly clear that many students were unaware of the various services available. A Public Relations strategy will need to be developed for all student services.

Health Services

Are Health Services at Loyola still located in the Centennial Building?

Yes, but the current space is now under renovation.

Update on Psychological Services?

Due to a general lack of services in the Montreal area, no matter how much service is provided at Concordia, it will never be enough.

Recreation and Athletics

Update on athletic facilities in the new library building.

The Government would not fund athletic space, but one level in the parking area will be designed in such a way that it can be converted to athletic space at a later date.

Were funds not ear-marked for athletic facilities in the last capital campaign?

No. An attempt was made several years ago to fund swimming facilities, but unfortunately was turned down at the Board level. This is definitely a matter which will have to be considered by CCSL and an evaluation of a fund-raising method will definitely be required in the future.

MOVED by N. Kaminaris, SECONDED by J. Mrenica that the Students Services Goals and Objectives document be accepted. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **CCSL Planning and Resources Committee (CCSL-10-91-D3)**

Dr. Boisvert explained that in the past a Budget and Priorities Committee, established by Council, reviewed and evaluated budget requests. Based on the Committee's evaluation and recommendation, the final budget figures were presented to Council for approval.

MOTION by N. Kaminaris, SECONDED by J. MRENICA that CCSL receive the budget directly. Motion carried unanimously.

Why more students on this committee and not parity?

Dr. Boisvert indicated that this committee will become the central working committee of Council, and since students are the prime "actors" in the process, it was felt that a larger percentage of student representation would be desirable.

Following a discussion of the composition and mandate of the CCSL Planning and Resources Committee, it was MOVED by A. Kerby and SECONDED by H. Farias that the committee be established. Motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that the committee would take a leadership role in the strategic planning process.

Amendment to the motion to accept the committee - one of the students on the committee be a graduate student. Agreed.

Due to the vital nature of this committee, it is essential that members are named as soon as possible. L. Grimes will forward to Dr. Boisvert the names of the students chosen to sit on the committee as well as who will be co-chair.

9. For information, the "Final Report of Strategic Space Planning Committee" was distributed.

It was MOVED by N. Kaminaris and SECONDED by B. Counihan that the report be tabled at the Planning and Resources Committee for further study and evaluation. The results would then be presented to Council. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Open Discussion

In future, this segment of the meeting will be devoted to various issues and concerns of interest to Council. Will return at the next meeting.

11. Reports from Directors

Dean of Students

Student Project Committee has disbursed funds to several worthy projects. The total budget allocation for projects is \$11,635. and the awarding of funds is a process which continues throughout the year. Dean Counihan will consider placing a small ad in the Link to promote the availability of project money.

A report from the part-time students task force will be available shortly.

Financial Aid and Awards

The Orientation Committee has been developing a programme to assist and inform new students entering the University on matters relating to educational opportunities, student life and student affairs.

Guidance Services

All workshops are progressing well. Meeting with Vice-Deans, Student Affairs to study ways and means of assisting students who are experiencing academic difficulties.

Advocacy and Support Services

Student poverty and how this issue is being addressed by the Advocacy and Support Group and would appreciate input from Council.

Health Services

Sexual Assault Committee - ongoing

Alcohol Task Force - ongoing

"It's Your Choice" - this video was shown in residence and N. Torbit will arrange to have other showings.

Recreation and Athletics

Excellent turnout for the Shrine Bowl. Students outnumbered alumni five to one.

12. **Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

Friday, 8 November, 1991 - 12:00 noon H-769

13. **Other Business**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.